1: Roth--1 [3] (No date) 1890 Tasmanians
116, 132

"The south-western district, washed by the Southern Ocean, is high and cold; but the climate of the northern and inland districts is one of the finest in the temperate zone, and produces in abundance and variety all the fruits which are found under the same latitude in Europe."

1: Roth--21 (No date) 1890 Tasmanians
116, 132

"Marion, who was in Tasmania in the middle of summer, found the climate very cold, and as he says (p. 34): 'We could not understand how the natives could live there in their naked state.' La Billardière was also astonished that the natives could live in such a climate without clothing; his words are (II. ch. x. p. 34): 'It appeared to us very astonishing, that in so high a latitude, where, at a period of the year so little advanced as the present, we already experienced the cold at night to be pretty severe, these people did not feel the necessity of clothing themselves. Even the women were for the most part entirely naked, as well as the men.'"

1: Roth--22 (No date) 1890 Tasmanians
116, 132, 164

"Backhouse, who visited these people as early as 1832, mentions (p. 105) that the inhabitants on the west coast had scars which 'appeared to have proceeded from irregular surgical cuts, and were principally upon the chest, which is very likely to be affected by inflammation, that often speedily issues death. A large proportion of these people died from this cause, in the course of the late inclement season.' Davies also refers (p. 417) to the prevalence of disease of the lungs:'Pulmonary complaints appear to be by far the most prevalent, particularly rapid inflammation of the lungs. Rheumatism is said to be common amongst them, as is likewise face-ache. They all suffer more or less from scabby sores. In the children these are dreadful, and disgusting in the extreme; with them all parts of the body are affected: with the adults the sores are more confined to the head: these are doubtless caused by their coarse living, aided by their dirty habits.' In contrast to their habits as mentioned above by Marion and La Billardière, he says (p. 415): 'The aborigines ... cannot ... bear constant exposure to bad weather; when such sets in, they will cower round their fires, under the lee of their break-winds, ... until a change takes place.'"

1: Roth--22-23 (No date) 1890 Tasmanians
116, 164, 177, 132

"Calder, who has gone more fully into the particulars of their illnesses, writes as follows (Journ. pp. 14, 15): 'Their rapid declension after the colony was founded is traceable, as far as our proofs allow us to judge, to the prevalence of epidemic disorders.... The naked savage soon discovered the comforts of clothing, and such things as blankets and clothing were often given them by the settlers; ... but ... he often kept his prize no longer than it suited the idle habits of the wanderer to carry it. Hence he was wrapped up like a mummy one week, and was as naked as a new-born infant the next. The climate of Tasmania is a variable one, ...there are very rapid changes of temperature, from moderate heat to coolness.... Now any person, whether savage or civilized, who wraps up at one time, and goes perfectly naked at another, exposed to any frequent changes of temperature, ... is [23] assuredly laying the foundation of fatal consumptive complaints, from which (such was the peculiar constitution of the Tasmanian savage) almost immediate death was certain, and whenever he took cold it seems to have settled on his lungs from the first.... Robinson says "they are universally susceptible of cold, and unless the utmost providence is taken to check its progress at an early period, it fixes itself on the lungs, and gradually assumes the complaint spoken of, i.e. the Catarral Fever"(Report May 24,1831). Again he says: "The number of aboriginals along the Western Coast has been considerably reduced since the time of my first visit [1830]; a mortality has raged amongst them, which,... with other causes, has rendered their numbers very inconsiderable (July 29, 1832)."'"